Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-13. (Canceled)

14. (Currently amended) A voice relaying method comprising:

receiving a cell;

de-multiplexing components of the received cell into a signaling cell and a voice cell;

disassembling the voice cell into a voice signal and disassembling the signaling cell into a first signaling signal;

detecting whether a relay switch operation is being carried out;

assembling the voice signal into a voice cell, and producing a signaling cell based on the first signaling signal; and

transmitting, to a network, a cell produced by multiplexing the signaling cell and the voice cell which are assembled during the assembling;

wherein the disassembling includes adding an identification signal to the voice signal to produce a first voice signal and sending the first voice signal to a switch; and

wherein the detecting includes detecting that the relay switch operation is being carried out when the first voice signal is received from the switch.

15. (Previously Presented) A voice relaying method according to claim 14,

wherein the identification signal is composed of a synchronous signal.

16-21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) A network device, comprising:

a receiver section to receive an incoming cell;

a disassembler section to produce a voice signal from the incoming cell;

a detection section to determine if an operation is being performed on behalf of the incoming cell;

an assembler section to produce a cell that includes the voice signal if the operation is being performed; and

an identification section to add an identification signal to the produced cell before making the produced cell available to a network.

23. (Previously Presented) The network device of claim 22, further comprising:

a transmission section to make the produced cell available to the network.

24. (Previously Presented) The network device of claim 22, further comprising:

a transmission section to send the produced cell to a destination via the network.

25. (Previously Presented) The network device of claim 24, wherein the destination is a switch.

26. (Previously Presented) The network device of claim 22, wherein the operation is a relay switch operation.

27. (Previously Presented) The network device of claim 22, wherein the detection section determines that a relay switch operation is being performed if the detection section determines that the incoming cell is received from a switch.

28. (Previously Presented) The network device of claim 22, wherein the assembler section associates a destination address with the produced cell.

29. (Previously Presented) The network device of claim 28, wherein the assembler section changes the destination address of the produced cell if the operation is being performed.

30. (Previously Presented) The network device of claim 22, wherein the network device is a voice relaying device.

31. (Currently amended) A network device, comprising:

a receiver section to operate on an incoming cell to produce a first signaling cell and a first voice cell;

a cell assembly/disassembly unit to operate on the first voice cell to produce a second voice cell and to operate on the first signaling cell to produce a second signaling cell, comprising:

a cell disassembler section to extract a voice signal from the first voice cell to produce a first voice signal and to extract a signaling signal from the first signaling cell; and

a cell assembler section to associate the first voice signal with the second voice cell and to associate the signaling signal with the second signaling cell; and

a transmitter section to make an outgoing cell available to a network, where the outgoing cell comprises the second voice cell and the second signaling cell.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Currently amended) The network device of claim [[32]] 31, wherein the cell assembly/disassembly unit further comprises:

an identification signal section to add an identification signal to the first voice signal to produce a second voice signal for inclusion in the second voice cell.

34. (Previously Presented) The network device of claim 33, wherein the cell assembly/disassembly unit further comprises:

a detection section to determine that a relay switch operation is being carried out if the second voice signal is received from a destination.

35. (Previously Presented) The network device of claim 31, wherein the outgoing cell is made available to a switch.

36. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

demultiplexing components of a received cell into a first voice cell and a first signaling cell;

disassembling the first voice cell into a first voice signal;

adding an identification signal to the first voice signal to produce a second voice signal; [[and]]

making the second voice signal available to a network; and

detecting that a relay switch operation is being performed if the second voice signal is received from a destination.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

producing a new cell that includes a second signaling cell having the first signaling cell associated therewith and a second voice cell having the second voice signal associated therewith; and

sending the new cell to a destination.

38. (Cancelled)

39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

sending the second voice signal to a switch.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the adding further comprises:

adding a synchronous signal to the first voice signal as the identification signal.

41. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the disassembling the first voice cell further comprises:

decoding the first voice signal; and

producing a pulse code modulated (PCM) voice signal from the decoded first voice signal.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

receiving a second cell from a destination;

demultiplexing the second cell to produce a received voice cell; and

determining if the received voice cell includes the identification signal.

43. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, further comprising:

determining that a relay switch operation is performed if the received voice cell includes the identification signal.

44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, further comprising:

generating a low-bit-rate coding voice signal from the first voice cell;

receiving a PCM voice signal via a network;

encoding the PCM voice signal into the low-bit-rate coding voice signal to produce a generated voice signal; and

associating the generated voice signal with a new voice cell for transmission to a destination via the network.

45. (Previously Presented) A device to facilitate voice communication in a network, the device comprising:

means for producing a voice signal from a cell;

means for determining if an operation is being performed on behalf of the cell;

means for producing a new cell that includes the voice signal if the operation is being performed;

means for adding an identification signal to the new cell; and

means for making the new cell and identification signal available to the network.